GENERAL SAFETY GUIDELINES

Firearms can be very dangerous if misused. When purchasing a firearm you assume a great responsibility in its use, storage and transportation. Listed below are some guidelines which should be strictly observed.

1. Handle all firearms as if they are loaded.
2. Be thoroughly familiar with the firearm before firing.
3. Keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction so if accidental discharge should occur only minor property damage would result.
4. Keep your finger off the trigger until you are on target and have decided to fire.
5. Be sure of your target and what is beyond it, including the backstop. Make certain shots fired present no safety hazard for yourself or others.
6. Never allow anyone to use your firearm who is not completely familiar with its operation.
7. Whenever the firearm is not actually in use, make certain it is unloaded.
8. Secure all firearms and ammunition from access by unauthorized persons, including children.
9. Always use eye and hearing protection when shooting any firearm or when near firearms being fired.
10. In the event of a misfire (hangfire) keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction. Wait approximately 30 seconds before opening the action. Discard the faulty cartridge and inspect the bolt, chamber, and bore for damage or obstruction before firing is resumed.
11. Clean the area after a shooting session. Do not leave spent casings, empty cartridge boxes, bullet ridden targets or the like behind.

MADE IN POLAND

POLISH MODEL P-64 PISTOL MANUAL

by D.R. Morse

FOREWORD

Political and economic forces brought the once powerful United Soviet Socialist Republic to a dramatic, if not dignified, end. However, in wake of the USSR's passage, some remarkable things did happen to the world of firearms. Many firearms once only known to serious collectors, or fortunate war veterans, are now not uncommon at gun shops and gun shows throughout the United States. Aficionados should enjoy this relative abundance while it lasts. The forces of anti-gun politics and limited numbers will bring an end to ready and inexpensive availability all too soon.

Copyright 2004 by D.R. & M.T. Morse
Published by Firing Pin Enterprizes
Printed in the United States of America

No part of this manual may be photocopied, transcribed or otherwise reproduced without prior written consent of the author.

A complete catalogue of books, manuals and other materials offered by Firing Pin Enterprizes may be obtained upon written or FAXed request to:

Firing Pin Enterprizes
P.O. Box 80696
Phoenix, AZ 85060-0696
FAX 602-275-5954 -- available 24hrs/day
Visit our website: www.firingpin.com

BACKGROUND

Poland has designed and manufactured many fine military weapons. In the area of handguns, the Radom is a famous Polish pistol. This 9mm sidearm might even be better than the famous Browning P-35 design pistol, having a less violent recoil and less wear to moving parts than the famous Hi-Power. Prior to World War II, Radoms were of excellent quality, and are sought by collectors today with much enthusiasm.

World War II found Poland quickly occupied by German forces, and weapons production performed by forced labor under Nazi control. Quality of course suffered. The ending of WWII resulted in Soviet control of this poorly treated country. Weapons design was influenced by Iron Curtain restrictions.

By the late 1950's, the Polish Army desired a new sidearm. The Russian Tokarov TT-33 pistol was then the standard issue pistol for the Polish forces.

Wanting some independence from the Soviet Union, they chose not to simply adopt the USSR Makarov, but desired to develop a weapon of their own design. A team of Polish army officers gathered to give birth to this new pistol. Initially, the officers were divided upon two variations of a basic design, called the CZAK (an acronym of the designers last names). Prototypes of the two variants were made for testing. One was dubbed the model "M" (milicyjny – police model), the other model "W" (wojskowj—military model.

These models differed in external dimensions and magazine capacity — the military model had a longer barrel and 7rd magazine capacity. Testing, evaluation and bureaucracy saw to the final decision being delayed until 1961, when the CZAK Model M was chosen to replace the Tokarov TT-33 as the standard Polish service pistol for the military, police and security agencies. By the middle 1960's production started on a pistol officially designated the " 9mm pistolet wz. 1964 (9mm pistol model 1964).

The P-64 pistol chambered the standard Soviet 9x18mm cartridge, then common to the Soviet Makarov pistol. The Model P-64 pistol was of blowback operation, with a double action trigger mechanism. Though similar in some ways to the Makarov and the Walther PP, and sometimes erroneously described as a PP clone, the P-64 is neither. It was designed by Polish engineers from scratch borrowing features from both sources. The P-64 is more compact than the PP and fires a more powerful (9x18mm) cartridge than the PP.

By the early 1970's, a few shortcomings to the original P-64 design had been identified. These included a short sight radius, small magazine capacity and heavy double action trigger pull. In 1972 some minor modifications were to the trigger mechanism and the hammer was given a larger hammer spur.

The trigger pull was little changed and magazine capacity remained six rounds. The Polish forces desired a change and a series of prototype service pistols were made: P-70, P-75, P-78A, P-78B, etc. In the late 1970's, the P-83 (a production version of the P-78B) was adopted to replace the P-64.

The P-64 saw well over 20 years service as the Polish standard sidearm. Some are still encountered in use by Polish reserve military and police forces. The pistol is no longer manufactured.

P-64 PISTOL

TABLE 1: TECHNICAL DATA OF PISTOL AND CARTRIDGE

Country of origin	Poland
Manufacturer	Z.M. Luczinik, Radom, Poland
Model	P-64
Caliber	9 x 18 mm (9mm Makarov)
Muzzle Velocity	1017 fps
Bullet weight, type	71 grain, FMJ
Adopted by Polish Government	1964
Finish	Blued
Weight (with empty magazine)	21.9 ounces
Overall Length	6.3 inches
Overall Height	4.6 inches
Thickness	1.0 inches
Barrel Length	3.33 inches
Sight Radius	4.5 inches
Sights	Fixed: Front - Blade Rear - Square notch Slide top checkered to pre-empt glare
Safeties	Manual, trigger bar block Firing pin block Loaded chamber indicator
Magazine	6 round, detachable box

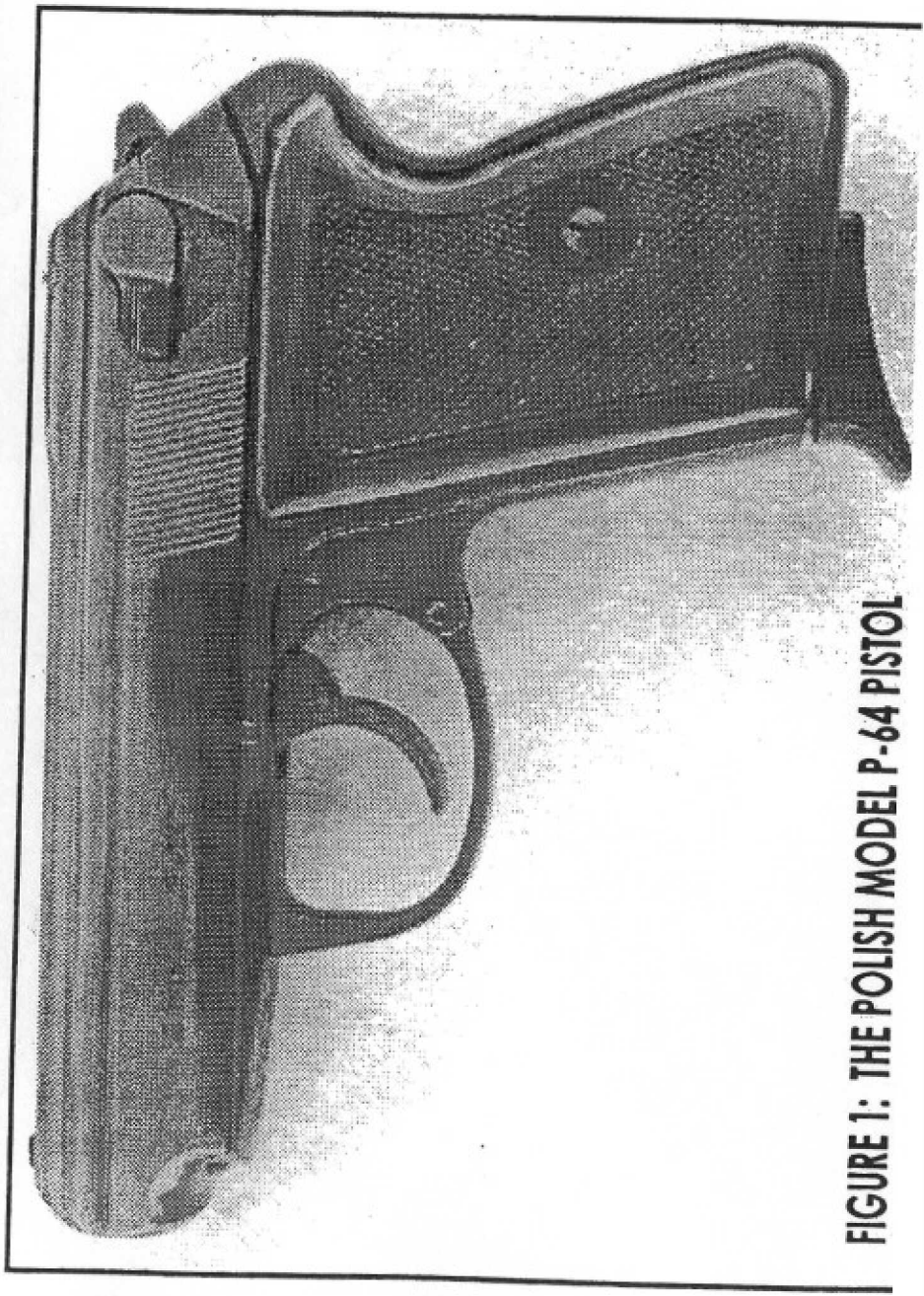


FIGURE 1: THE POLISH MODEL P-64 PISTOL

OPERATION OF THE PISTOL

SAFETY NOTE: Before operating your P-64 pistol, read and observe all safety instructions on the back and inside cover of this manual. Always exercise great care and proper safety procedures when handling this or any firearm.

Fire the pistol in the following manner:

1) Load the magazine.
2) With the slide forward and the safety disengaged (See Figure 2A), insert the loaded magazine into the magazine well completely, verifying the magazine catch is fully engaged.
3) Point the muzzle in a safe direction.
4) Grasp the slide at the milled grooves and pull the slide completely to the rear.
5) Release the slide, allowing it to move forward, chambering a round. Verify the slide is fully forward.
6) The pistol is ready to fire.

Note: If the pistol is not to be fired immediately, refer to section "Carrying a P-64 having a live round in the chamber".

7) Aligning the front and rear sights in a normal sight picture on the desired target, fire the weapon.
8) When the last round has been fired, the slide will be held open by the internal slide stop lever.

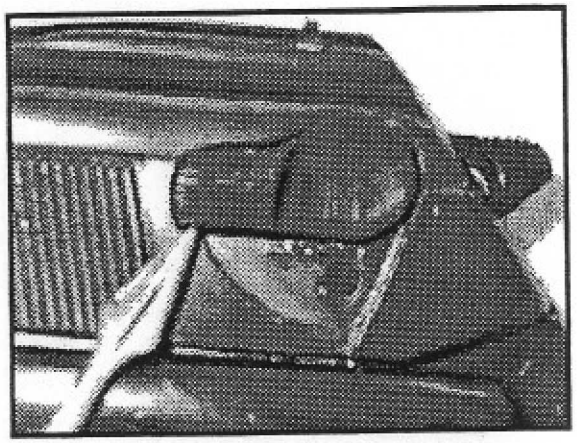


FIG. 2A — SAFETY LEVER OFF: Firing position. A red dot shows indicating "FIRE" position

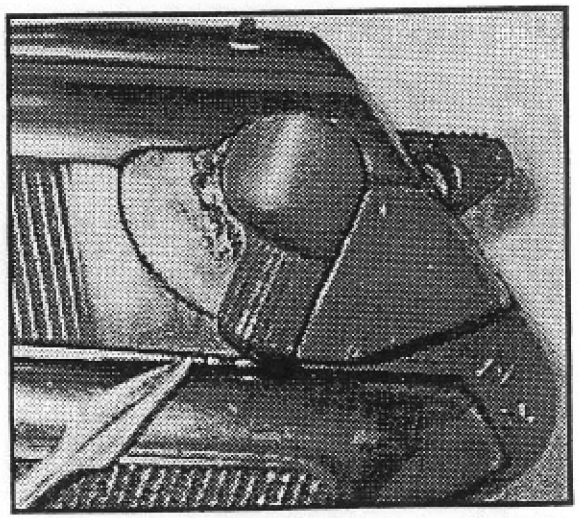


FIG. 2B — SAFETY LEVER ON: Trigger bar blocked, firing pin locked in place, will not fire.

FIGURE 2: OPERATION OF SAFETY
FIG. 2A & 2B show safety "Disengaged" and "Engaged", respectively. Engaging of the Safety Lever, safely dropping the hammer.

9) To close the slide, remove the magazine. Verify the chambe is clear, then firmly grasp the slide by the milled grooves an pull back slightly. The slide stop will disengage.
10) Ease the slide forward. Allowing slides to slam forward on a empty chamber is not a good practice.

Carrying a P-64 having a live round in the chamber:

Follow steps 1 through 5 in the prior section.

NOTE: The pistol must be in proper working order, as verifie by a competent gunsmith, before carrying with a live round i the chamber.

6) Keeping finger away from the trigger, point the pistol in a saf direction, and engage the safety (See Figure 2B) droppin the hammer, locking the firing pin in place and blocking th firing pin from impact by the hammer.
7) The pistol may be placed in a properly designed holster fo carry.
8) The P-64 is equipped with a loaded chamber indicato located at the rear of the slide, just below the rear sigh (Figure 3). If a cartridge is in the chamber, the indicator wi protrude to the rear approximately .100" (see Figure 4).

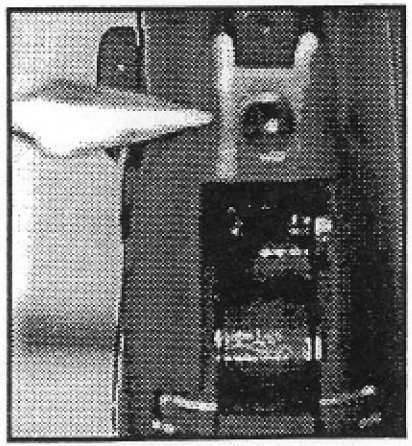


FIG. 3 — LOADED CHAMBER INDICATOR (incicated by pointer) RECEDED—DENOTING NO CARTRIDGE IN CHAMBER.

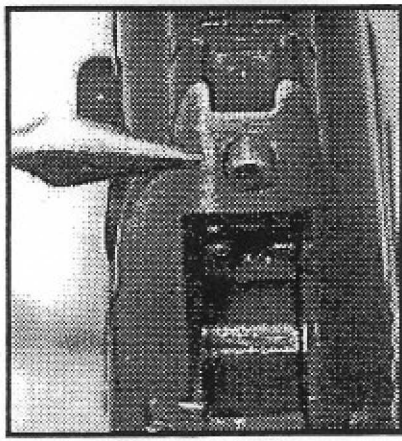


FIG. 3 — LOADED CHAMBER INDICATOR PROTRUDING—DENOTING CARTRIDGE IN CHAMBER..

Note: A loaded chamber indicator DOES NOT substitute for th practice of visually verifying a chamber is clear (unloaded) or no clear (loaded).

To unload a P-64 having a live round in the chamber:

1) Place the safety in the ON position.
2) Remove the magazine.
3) Grasp the slide by the milled grooves and pull the slide completely rearward in one smooth motion.
4) The loaded cartridge should be ejected clear of the pistol.
5) Visually verify the chamber is empty and the cartridge has been ejected clear of the pistol.
6) Ease the slide forward to a closed position.
7) Reinsert the magazine.

PISTOL DISASSEMBLY

1) Remove the magazine and lay it aside.
2) Place the safety in the "ON" position.
3) Grasping the pistol with the right hand, retract the slide with the left hand and verify the chamber is unloaded.
4) Ease the slide to battery.
5) Still holding the pistol with the right hand, pull the hinged trigger guard downward (See Figure 3) with the left hand.

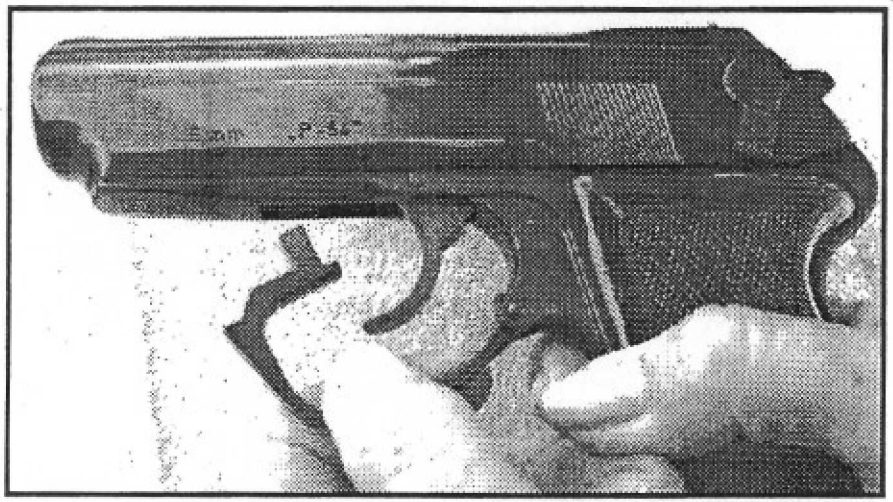


FIGURE 3: PULLING HINGED TRIGGER GUARD DOWN FOR DISASSEMBLY

6) Push the trigger guard to left or right, resting its edge upon the pistol frame (See Figure 4).

Note: The trigger guard has two small grooves cut one either side of the lug, which engage the frame when the guard is rested on the frame for disassembly.

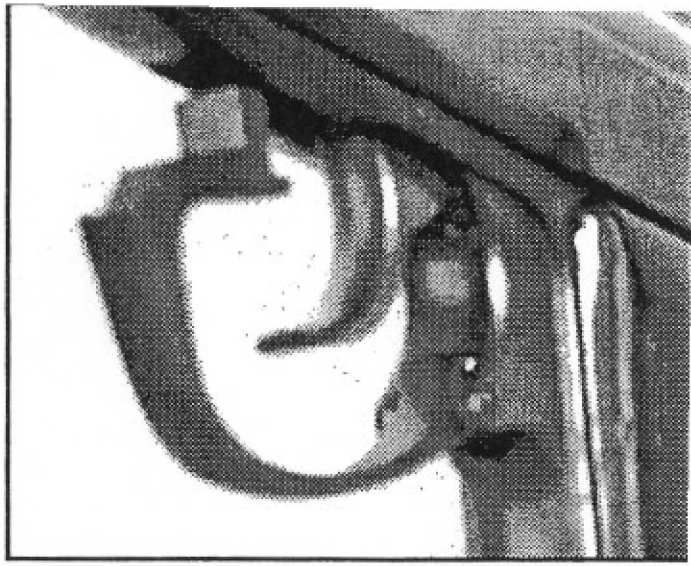


FIGURE 4: RESTING TRIGGER GUARD ON FRAME FOR DISASSEMBLY

7) Grasping the slide by the serrations with the left hand, pull the slide completely rearward.
8) The rear of the slide will lift upward, free of the slide rails.
9) Ease the slide forward, clear of the barrel. The recoil spring will remain wrapped around the barrel. Lay the slide aside.
10) Remove the recoil spring and lay it aside.
11) Unscrew the grip screw and from the grip screw nut. Lay both grip screw and grip screw nut aside.
12) Remove the grip panels and lay them aside.

No further disassembly is required or recommended for cleaning or maintenance. Do not allow the hammer to fall with the slide removed. Damage to the mechanism may result.
Reassemble by reversing the disassembly procedure.
NOTE: One end of the recoil spring is smaller than the other. The smaller end slips over the barrel. The other end, going into the slide, being slightly larger greatly eases reassembly of the slide onto the barrel.

MAGAZINE DISASSEMBLY

1) On the left side of the magazine at its base is a notch. Through this notch a bent portion of the magazine spring protrudes to engage this notch. See Figure 6. Using a narrow gunsmith's screwdriver or like tool, lift the wire upward to clear the notch in the floorplate.
2) Slip the floorplate forward slightly, so the notch in the base is past the wire end.

3) Laying the tool aside, slide the floorplate off the magazine, allowing the spring and follower to be removed. Be careful, the spring is under tension and might fly out if not restrained.

Reassemble pistol and magazine by reversing the disassembly procedures.

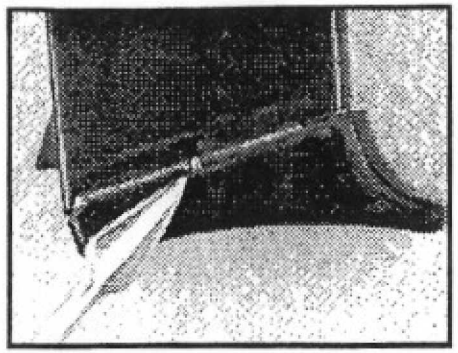


FIGURE 6: SPRING ENGAGES NOTCH IN MAGAZINE FLOORPLATE

Figure 5 shows the pistol disassembled for cleaning and normal maintenance. No further disassembly is required for routine operation and is not recommended for anyone but a qualified gunsmith.

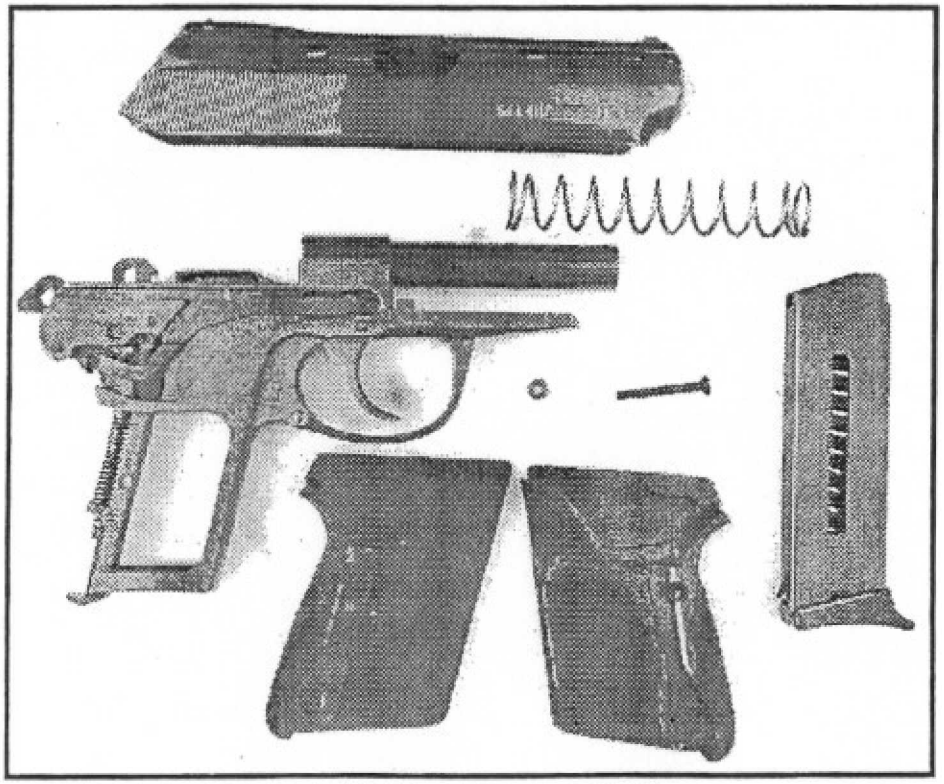


FIGURE 5: PISTOL DISASSEMBLED FOR CLEANING.

CARE AND CLEANING

1) Clean the pistol after every shooting session.
   A) Disassemble as previously described, and wipe pistol components and magazine thoroughly with a clean cloth.
   B) Swab the bore with cleaning solvent, followed by clean dry patches until the patches emerge clean.
   C) Lightly coat all surfaces of the pistol and magazine with a lubricating oil.
   D) Reassemble the pistol, insert the magazine and place the hammer fully forward by engaging the safety.
   E) Place the pistol in storage in a clean, dry place.

MALFUNCTIONS AND STOPPAGES

Always keep your pistol clean and properly lubricated. The majority of malfunctions experienced when firing the P-64 will be the result of faulty ammunition and/or a damaged or defective magazine.

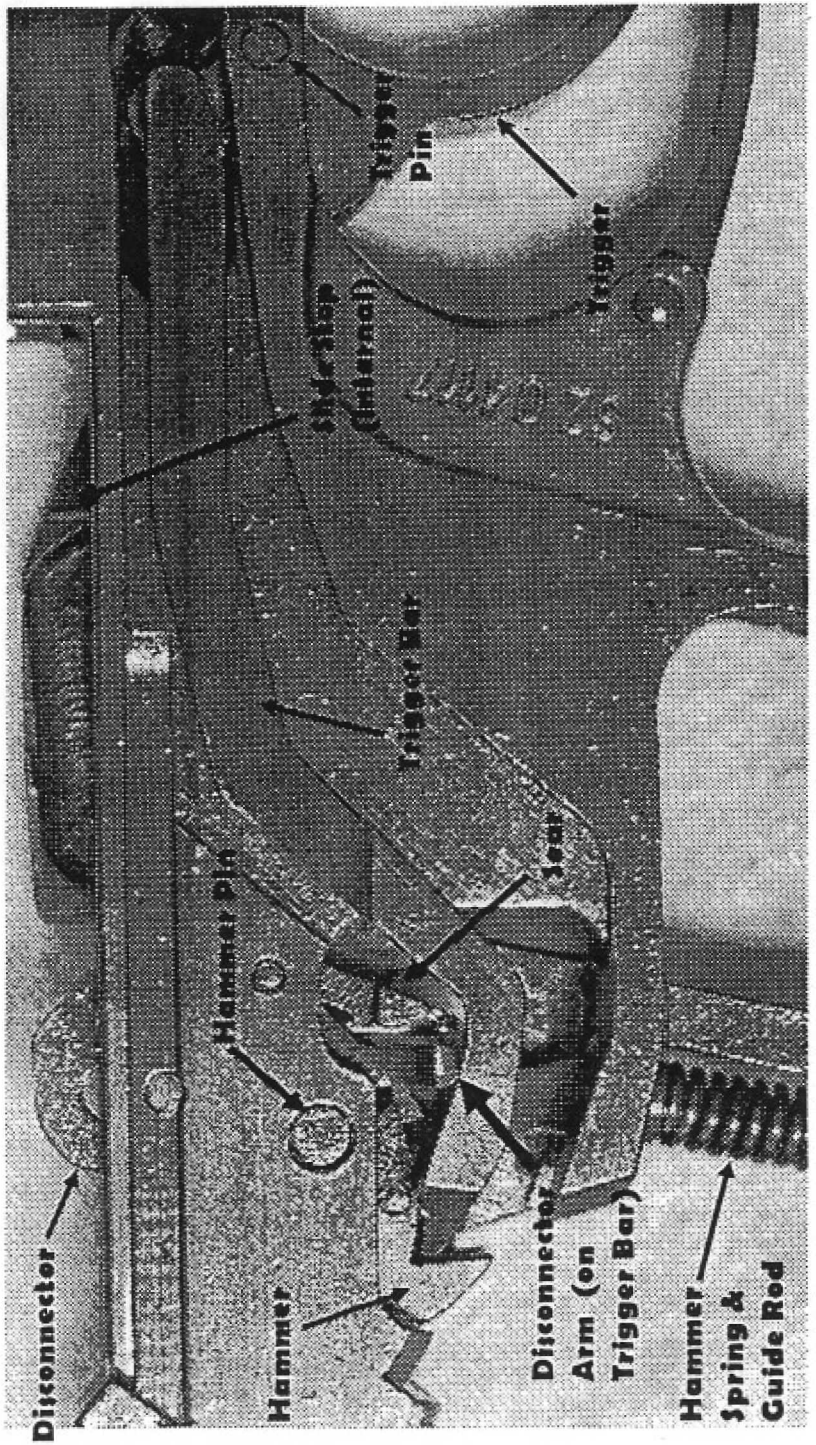
To prevent operation problems exercise the following precautions:

1) Carefully inspect the pistol and magazine prior to operation to assure proper condition, cleanliness and lubrication.
2) Use only clean ammunition of the correct type, caliber, and loading. Do not use hand loaded or re-loaded ammunition.
3) Should any parts experience noticeable wear or break, have them repaired or replaced promptly.

Should problems occur, the following table will assist in diagnosing and correcting the disorder.

STOPPAGES	REASON FOR STOPPAGE	METHODS OF CORRECTION
1. MISFIRE Slide in extreme forward position, hammer down, but no shot fired.	1. Cartridge primer faulty.	1. Reload pistol and continue firing.
	2. Thickening of lubricant or fouling of firing pin channel	2. Inspect and clean pistol
	3. Firing emerges only slightly or has nicks on head	3. Have pistol examined by competent gunsmith
	4. Firing pin broken	4. Have part replaced by competent gunsmith
2. SLIDE INCOMPLETELY COVERS CARTRIDGE Slide Stopped without reaching extreme forward position, impossible to release hammer	1. Fouling of chamber, frame slots and/or slide	1. Shove slide forward by hitting with hand and continue firing
	2. Impaired movem of extractor due to fouling of extractor spring or plunger	2. Inspect and clean pistol
3. FAILURE TO FEED CARTRIDGE OR NON-ADVANCE OF CARTRIDGE FROM MAGAZINE TO CHAMBER. Slide is in forward position, but no cartridge in chamber.	1. Fouling of magazine and pistol's moving parts	1. Clean pistol and magazine. Reload pistol and continue firing.
	2. Bent condition of upper ends of magazine housing	2. Replace faulty magazine
4. JAMMING (PINCHING) OF CARTRIDGE CASE BY SLIDE. Cartridge case not ejected out through opening in slide and jammed between slide and breech face	1. Fouling of moving parts	1. Extract jammed cartridge case and continue firing. If condition persists, clean pistol and magazine, then continue firing.
	2. Faulty extractor, extractor spring and/ or ejector	2. Have pistol examined by competent gunsmith

NOTES:



IDENTIFICATION OF VARIOUS PARTS OF THE P-64

--- WARNING ---

While the Polish P-64 pistols are, as a general rule reliable, we constructed quality weapons; they are nonetheless pre-owned and out of production firearms. Initial manufacture began in the 1960's, and any pistol purchased today must be viewed as no having been examined by a qualified professional for some time As with any firearm, certain precautions must be exercised before putting the pistol back into service.

1. Thoroughly clean the firearm and have it inspected by a reputable gunsmith before firing.
2. Make certain there are no obstructions in the bore.
3. Be completely familiar with the proper operation of your firearm, especially the safety features.
4. Use only clean ammunition of the correct type, caliber, and loading. Do not use hand loaded or re-loaded ammunition.

Do not fire any previously owned weapon without first having it examined by a competent professional.